

## **Brendhan Dickerson**

### **Biography**

Born in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1968, Brendhan Dickerson studied at Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, where he completed a masters degree, with distinction, in 1996.

An avid reader of fiction and online current affairs news sites, Dickerson's work often articulates wry social commentary or political satire. To this end he enjoys combining or re-presenting loaded objects in unexpected, startling ways.

He takes great delight in kinetic and interactive sculpture, often making works which invite interaction from the viewer.

His media include wrought stainless steel and iron, carved wood, cast plastics and bronze.

Sculpture as drawing is an area of particular interest; Dickerson uses the gestural expressiveness and linearity of wrought iron to produce, spatially dynamic, three-dimensional line-drawings.

He is also interested in the notion of sculpture as spectacle, and is engaged in an on-going exploration of kinetic fire-sculpture as a form of performance art. Indeed the exploration of sculpture as drawing grew out of the fire-sculptures, which are essentially linear.

Dickerson is a passionate visual arts educator, and has lectured in sculpture and arts practice, intermittently, since 1995 - at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, the University of Cape Town and Stellenbosch University.

In 2003 he ran a ceramic programme fostering creativity and self-expression at a centre for mentally handicapped adults, near Dublin, Ireland.

He was product developer and project co-ordinator at Montebello Design Centre in Cape Town, for their, small-enterprise and craft-skills development programme, for unemployed and marginalised people.

He is represented, inter alia, in the collections of the South African National Gallery, the Johannesburg Art Gallery, the Durban Art Gallery, and various corporate and private collections.

In 2009, in collaboration with Petra Keinhorst, he was co-winner of the IDASA sculpture competition.

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